



# FESAC

Federal Economic Statistics  
Advisory Committee

## Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee Meeting

December 13, 2024

**Meeting Recording** - <https://youtu.be/Bnkt8M89uZY>

**Materials Link** (agenda, presentations, background materials) - <https://apps.bea.gov/fesac/>

**Time:** 10 a.m. – 3:13 p.m. (EST)

**Location:** BEA (Suitland Federal Center) and Webex

### Attendance:

- **FESAC Member Attendance**
  - David Wilcox (Chair) Svenja Gudell (Vice Chair), Rajshree Agarwal, Christine Baker-Smith, Avi Collis, Jason Faberman, Fiona Greig, Erica Groshen, Constance Hunter, Gopi Shah Goda, Peter Schott, Mel Stephens, Don Unser, Christopher Wheat
- **FESAC Executive Attendance**
  - Vipin Arora, Ron Jarmin, Erika McEntarfer, Nick Orsini, Bill Wiatrowski, Patricia Abaroa
- **Other Public Attendees** – request list if needed.
- **Designated Federal Official (DFO)** – Sabrina Montes

### Summary of Meeting

David Wilcox (Chair and emcee for the meeting) and Sabrina Montes (DFO) gave opening remarks and logistics information for the day.

### Session 1 – Current Population Survey Challenges: Lessons from International Labor Market Surveys (10:05 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.)

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is working to modernize the Current Population Survey (CPS). BLS presented on the CPS at past FESAC meetings. Colleagues from the United Kingdom, Canada, and Germany—who are also wrestling with population surveys challenges shared their experiences.

- **Julie Hatch** (BLS) introduced the session.

There were three presentations in this session:

- **David Freeman** (Office for National Statistics, United Kingdom) presented [The Labour Force Survey in the UK](#).
- **Vincent Dale** (Statistics Canada) also presented [Restoring LFS Response Rates: The Canadian Experience](#).
- **Frank Schüller and Jörg Enderer** (Federal Statistical Office of Germany) - [The German Microcensus/LFS – recent improvements and future challenges](#).

Two discussants offered insights in response to the presentations. The discussants were:

- **Gopi Shah Goda** (FESAC Member) [Discussant Presentation](#)
- **Mel Stephens** (FESAC Member) [Discussant Presentation](#)



The conversation was opened to the committee, and committee members provided feedback asked questions of the presenters and discussants to gain a better understanding of the information.

The committee took a break (11:35 – 11:45 a.m.).

### **Session 2 – Bureau Update (11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.)**

Vipin Arora gave the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) update on personnel, budget, initiatives, etc. Erika McEntarfer gave the Bureau of Labor Statistics update on personnel, budget, new initiatives, etc. Ron Jarmin gave the Census Bureau update on personnel, budget, new initiatives, etc. The conversation was opened to the committee, and committee members asked questions of the presenters and discussants to gain a better understanding of the information.

The committee took a lunch break (12:45 – 1:45 p.m.).

### **Session 3 – Measuring AI (1:45 – 3:13 p.m.)**

The FESAC Bureaus were asked to present about their AI measurement initiatives.

There were three presentations in this session:

- **Emin Dinlersoz** (Census Bureau) - [Measuring AI Use by U.S. Businesses](#). The presenter asked the discussants and committee members: What specific public data products on AI use by firms and AI's diffusion would be useful? What topics/measures should such data products emphasize/prioritize? What other datasets could be of use to Census Bureau in measuring AI use by firms? Commercial or administrative data?
- **Michael Wolf** (Bureau of Labor Statistics) - [Identifying Structural Change in BLS Data](#). The presenter described how BLS occupational data have measured structural changes in the labor force. He illustrated that these changes occur over long periods of time and inflection points are only visible after many years. He discussed how these occupational data could similarly show AI-related that structural change in occupations if and when they occur. He noted that if new forms of AI are different and impacts on occupations occur faster, this lag in identifying inflection points is more salient. He asked discussants and committee members if they had any feedback.
- **Tina Highfill** (Bureau of Economic Analysis) - [Concepts and Challenges of Measuring Production of Artificial Intelligence in the U.S. Economy](#). The presenter asked the discussants and committee members: How should BEA prioritize measuring production of AI over other areas of research? How should "AI production" be defined? What products should be included in a proposed AI satellite account?

Two discussants offered insights in response to the presentations. The discussants were:

- **Avinash Collis** (FESAC Member)
- **Rajshree Agarwal** (FESAC Member) [Discussant Presentation](#)

The conversation was opened to the committee, and committee members provided feedback asked questions of the presenters and discussants to gain a better understanding of the information.

DFO Sabrina Montes adjourned the meeting at 3:13 p.m.



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I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

Date:

David Wilcox  
Chairman  
Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee Meeting